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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

October 13, 2003

[122001-1020]

TO

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

ATTN: Examiner Alexander Spiegler;

Group Art Unit: 1637

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FROM

Charles Vorndran, Ph.D.

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Serial No. 09/618,129; Filing Date: July 17, 2000 RE: As discussed, please find a draft Response to the outstanding Office Action.

Number of Pages (Including This Cover Sheet): -. 20 - Page(s)
PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE SAFE AND CLEAR RECEIPT OF ALL PAGES.

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INTERNATIONAL PATENT, TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT LAW AND RELATED LITIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia

Huntsville, Alabama

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Xiao Bing WANG et al.

DRAFT

Serial No.: 09/618,129

Group Art Unit: 1637

Filed: July 17, 2000

Examiner: Alexander Spiegler

Confirmation No.: 8510

For: Detection of Sequence Variation of Nucleic Acid By Shifted Termination Analysis

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 RECEIVED

OCT 15 2003

RESPONSE (WITH AMENDMENTS) UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Unofficial

Mail Stop: AF Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Final Office Action (Paper No. 27) mailed September 23, 2003, has been received and carefully reviewed. In response, Applicant provides the following amendments and remarks, and respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

No fees are believed due with this paper, and no extensions of time are believed to be needed; however, in the event that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor and any other required fees are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.